

CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1. An internally threaded fastener assembly comprising:  
5 a stemmed washer having a washer portion, a standoff portion integral with the washer portion and extending therefrom, and a retaining portion; and  
an internally threaded fastener disposed adjacent to the washer portion and retained in assembly with the stemmed washer by the retaining portion.
- 10 2. The assembly of claim 1, wherein the fastener includes a peripheral flange and the retaining portion extends radially inwardly to capture the peripheral flange and thereby to retain the fastener in the assembly.
- 15 3. The assembly of claim 1, wherein the fastener is rotatable with respect to the stemmed washer.
4. The assembly of claim 1, wherein the standoff portion forms a hollow right cylinder
- 20 5. The assembly of claim 1, wherein the washer portion is generally planar.
6. The assembly of claim 1, wherein the fastener is a threaded nut having flats extending from the stemmed washer.
- 25 7. An internally threaded fastener assembly comprising:  
a threaded nut having a lower peripheral flange; and  
a base having a washer portion, a standoff portion extending from the washer portion, and a retaining skirt portion extending from the washer portion and capturing the peripheral flange of the threaded nut to retain the threaded nut in assembly with the base.

8. The assembly of claim 7, wherein the nut includes flats extending from the retain skirt portion.

5 9. The assembly of claim 7, wherein the standoff portion, the washer portion and the retaining skirt portion form a single-piece structure.

10. The assembly of claim 7, wherein the nut is rotatable with respect the base.

11. The assembly of claim 7, wherein the washer portion is generally planar.

10 12. The assembly of claim 7, wherein the standoff portion forms a hollow right cylinder.

15 13. An internally threaded fastener assembly comprising:  
an internally threaded fastener; and  
a base having a washer portion, a standoff portion extending from the washer portion, and a retaining skirt portion extending from the washer portion and capturing the fastener in assembly with the base.

20 14. The assembly of claim 13, wherein the fastener includes a peripheral flange extending radially therefrom, and wherein the skirt portion captures the peripheral flange to retain the fastener in assembly with the base.

25 15. The assembly of claim 13, wherein the fastener is rotatable with respect to the base.

16. A method for making a fastener assembly, the method comprising the steps of:  
providing an internally threaded fastener;

forming a base including a washer portion, a standoff portion extending from a first side of the washer portion, and a skirt portion extending from an opposite side of the washer portion;

disposing the fastener at least partially within the skirt portion; and

5       plastically deforming the skirt portion with respect to the fastener to retain the fastener in assembly with the base.

10       17.     The method of claim 16, wherein the fastener includes a peripheral flange extending radially therefrom, and wherein the skirt portion is deformed to capture the peripheral flange.

15       18.     The method of claim 16, wherein the skirt portion is deformed with respect to the fastener to permit rotation of the fastener with respect to the base.

20       19.     The method of claim 16, wherein the skirt portion is plastically deformed by a crimping operation.

25       20.     The method of claim 16, wherein the standoff portion is formed to extend a predetermined length from the washer portion.

      21.     The method of claim 16, wherein the standoff portion forms a hollow right cylinder.

      22.     The method of claim 16, wherein the washer portion is generally planar.

      23.     A method for making a fastener assembly, the method comprising the steps of:

stamping a base from a blank, the base including a washer portion, a standoff portion extending from one side of the washer portion, and an upstanding skirt portion extending from an opposite side of the washer portion;

disposing an internally threaded fastener within the skirt portion; and

plastically deforming the skirt portion to capture the fastener in assembly with the base.

24. The method of claim 23, wherein the fastener is rotatable within the base following plastic deformation of the skirt portion.

25. The method of claim 23, wherein the skirt portion is plastically deformed by a crimping operation.

26. A fastener kit comprising:  
a stemmed washer having a washer portion, a standoff portion integral with the washer portion, and a retaining portion;  
an internally threaded fastener disposed adjacent to the washer portion and retained in assembly with the stemmed washer by the retaining portion; and  
an externally threaded fastener which mates with the internally threaded fastener.

27. A fastened joint comprising:  
a stemmed washer having a washer portion, a standoff portion integral with the washer portion, and a retaining portion;  
an internally threaded fastener disposed adjacent to the washer portion and retained in assembly with the stemmed washer by the retaining portion;  
an externally threaded fastener which mates with the internally threaded fastener, the externally threaded fastener including a head; and  
a compressible substrate joined between the standoff portion and the head of the externally threaded fastener.